

QUA-RAE

HAVE YOU NEWS OF THE RAE?



The Official Newsletter of the Radio Association of Erie
The RAE is an ARRL Special Service Club

May 1, 2000

Happy Spring!

No. 5...

2000

From the President

By Bob Fuller, N3LBI

Here it is May already! May will be a busy time for many Amateurs in the area. New antennas going up, DAYTON! Trying out new HF privileges, DAYTON! Here's wishing everyone going to DAYTON, a safe trip, good weather, really good bargains, and lots of information to share with those of us not fortunate enough to attend. June is going to be a busy month as well. There will be the first major public service event, which is the Edinboro Triathlon. Thanks to Cliff, N3BZL for organizing our participation in the event this year, and thanks to all who signed up to help Cliff. Cliff will be keeping us informed of details as the time approaches. The next major club event in June will be Field Days. As I related earlier, I won't be able to chair the project or participate to any great extent, I'll be available ahead of time to assist a volunteer willing to chair the event.

'til next time '73, Bob, N3LBI



Questions Continue In Restructuring's Wake

From the ARRL Letter

April 15 has come and gone, but the flow of questions about Amateur Radio "restructuring" has only slowed somewhat in the intervening days. ARRL-VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, says the most common question these days is: "When can I expect to see my new license grant from the FCC?"

"The answer we give is three to four weeks from the test date, possibly sooner," Jahnke said. As a result of April 15-16 weekend testing and upgrade processing, the ARRL-VEC anticipates seeing 10,000 or more license applications over the next week or so. "We had some 250 sessions scheduled for April 15, and they average perhaps 50 applicants at each," Jahnke explained.

"Based on gut feelings and a crystal ball, we conceivably could now have 10,000 new Generals and 5000 new Extras hitting the airwaves at roughly the same time," Jahnke speculated. That's just based on the first day or two of upgrading and testing under the new rules.

Other burning questions have had to do with operating privileges. Several callers

(Continued on page 2)

Questions...

(Continued from page 1)

have wondered if Technicians who pass the 5 WPM Morse code test (Element 1) may then operate on the Novice bands. The answer is yes. Such licensees no longer get a new license class--it would have been Tech Plus under the old rules--but they have the same privileges as current Tech Plus licensees.

At present, while such Element 1 credit provides new privileges for the term of the license, the credit--at least for now--is only good for 365 days for upgrading purposes. The League has petitioned the FCC to make Element 1 credit permanent.

The FCC last week made it clear that General class operators may not operate on the Advanced class subbands, however.

Other callers have wondered if they may use a *Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination--CSCE*--for an "old" amateur examination element under the new rules. In most cases, as long as the CSCE is not older than 365 days, it is still valid for equivalent element credit. For example, a Technician holding a CSCE for the "old" Element 3B (General written) may upgrade upon passing Element 1, the 5 WPM Morse code test, provided the CSCE is no older than 365 days. "An unexpired CSCE for Element 3B is valid for the new Element 3," explained Brennan Price, N4QX, the newest member of ARRL Field and Educational Services. In addition, unexpired

CSCEs for Elements 4A and 4B together still confer credit for the new Element 4 (Amateur Extra written).

"On the other hand, an unexpired CSCE for the Advanced Element 4A by itself will earn, at most, a hearty handshake," explains Price, an experienced VE who's been helping to handle the backlog of inquiries. "Element 4A is no good without Element 4B."

Q

QUA-RAE Editor Needed

Looking for something to do in your spare time? Do you want to contribute to the club, but don't know how? Are you looking for a good reason to buy a computer?

Well, I've got the perfect solution. Become the editor of the QUA-RAE.

Due to business and family obligations, I will be temporarily resigning as the QUA-RAE editor. I have enjoyed my job as editor and I am giving it up with great reluctance, but with my new business, I simply don't have the time necessary to produce the quality newsletter that club members deserve.

If you are looking for a VERY rewarding way to help the club, this is the perfect job.

If interested, contact the editor, or Bob, N3LBI.

The QUARAE is published by the Radio Association of Erie. The Radio Association of Erie is a non-profit club serving the tri-state area by providing emergency communications during a civil disaster, as well as providing communication support for public events. The club meets at 7:00pm the first Thursday of every month at the Red Cross chapter house, 4961 Pittsburgh Ave., Erie, PA. For membership information contact Bob Schimmer, N3FAW at 866-3027 or e-mail bobn3faw@velocity.net

The QUA-RAE is edited by Mark Testa, N3SFP. Articles or classified ads can be submitted to the editor, preferably via e-mail or disk. E-mail n3sfp@erie.net. Articles can also be faxed to 240-218-4276. If you need to mail an article, send to 849 Newton Ave., Erie, PA 16511. Please have your article to the editor by the 15th to be guaranteed space in the current issue. Articles received after the 15th will be placed in the next issue. Any and all articles of interest to the ham community will be greatly appreciated!

12 x / yr Po Box Address

MEETING MINUTES

RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE GENERAL MEETING April 6, 2000

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: N3LBI, K3GJK, N3RKO, N3ZUD, N3BZL, KA3WYO and K3LD.
Not present: N3FAW and KA3QDM.

The RAE general meeting was called to order by President, N3LBI at 7:29.
Upgrades: KB3ALU to general.

Visitors: Greg Lehman from Dunkirk, NY Club - Pres. Terry Lindberg, KB2OAZ and Vice Pres. Duane Buchweich, N2LRD.

Secretary Report: A motion to accept the minutes from March general meeting. Motion: K3TJM, second: KB3ALY.

Treasury Report: K3GJK gave report. Also, if anyone has an renewal of ARRL membership, if you get it to Jerry, the club gets \$2.00 for old membership and \$5.00 for new memberships. Make the checks out to RAE Club.

Board Meeting: N3LBI - EOC status: will review latest copy, fundraising, need new editor temporarily for QUARAE, programs and education.

QUARAE: N3SFP- Mark temporarily (reluctantly) needs to give up doing the paper due to the startup of his business. In about 6 months he will reevaluate. Let Mark or N3LBI know if you are interested. N3LBI mentioned that Mark has done a very good job.

Membership: N3FAW -176 members for 2000.

Repeater: N3SRD- repeater committee met and brainstormed on ideas where to move the 61 repeater. They came up with some preliminary ideas and will sit down to recheck and start testing different sites. George, W3ZQS has the 2nd voter 99% done.

Public Service: N3BZL - Edinboro Triathlon is June 3 at 8:00. Motion N3BZL 2nd N3SFP to do it. Need volunteers for a very good event. Let N3BZL or N3LBI know if you are interested.

VE: W3CG - April 15 at 8:00 and May 6 at the Villa Lecture Hall. Will be doing test in Union City on Thursday April 13 at 7:00 at the Elementary School. If you test now anything passed will be credited to the new license. You will need copies of your licenses to do the paperwork.

-Gannon will be April 15 and May 20.

SKYWARN: N3EOY- 47 people showed up for the SKYWARN training for a combination of basic and advanced. The new warning coordinator will work on separate classes for basic and advanced for next year.

ARES: N3HPR - We have 131 ARES members. Hopefully soon Tom will announce when you can get the pictures done for the new badges.

Old Business: N3LBI - EOC hopefully get this going soon before the grass gets too tall.

New Business: Let N3LBI know if you are interested in fundraising. N3MLX Joe - Six Shooters Swap meet on Sunday April 9. All proceeds goes to the Ripley Fire Department

Good of the Order: KE3XR- on SKYWARN training. If you haven't been there in a while, you should go just for a refresher.

Motion to adjourn N3HPR, second N3ZUD.

50/50 - \$ 23.00 WB3KGT. Second 50/50 drawing which is at \$412.00 - Richard Engel (KA3KFQ) who was not present.

Adjourn 8:02

Submitted by K3LD

!!THE R. A. E. 50-50 JACKPOT!! FOR MEMBERS ONLY

Winner Must be PRESENT

Here's how it works: After the regular meeting the usual ticket is drawn for the monthly 50-50 prize. The winning member gets one-half of that day's ticket proceeds, as in the past.

Then the *other half* of the money from that day's purchases is added to the money (if any) unclaimed from the previous meeting's drawing.

Next there is another drawing from a random selection of member names. If present, the member gets the accumulated jackpot. If he/she is absent, that day's money is added to the pot for next month. The club keeps nothing.

Next drawing will be at least \$412.00!

Radio Association of Erie officers for 2000

PRESIDENT

Bob Fuller, N3LBI

VICE PRESIDENT

Bob Fuller, N3LBI

SECRETARY

Dianne Miller, K3LD

TREASURER

Jerry Koos, K3GJK

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You may be an old timer...

- ♦ If you recognize all the stuff in boxes under the tables at hamfests.
- ♦ If you don't own an HT and don't know what an offset is.
- ♦ If your wife is actually starting to call herself "the XYL".
- ♦ If your wife left ten years ago and you haven't noticed it yet.
- ♦ If your qsl collection no longer fits in your bedroom.
- ♦ If the neighbors dog is afraid to walk through you backyard.

Courtesy of Bob, KB3ALY

Classified

5/2000

HP internal CD-Rewriter 7200i Plus. Only 1 year old. Comes with loads of software (drivers, etc.). Great PC back-up device and is multi-session compatible! Will play regular CD-ROM and CD-R disks as well as CD-RWs. CD-RWs can be rewritten up to 1000 times. Can be used like a removable hard drive. \$140 obo.

HP Colorado Jumbo Tape Backup system. Drivers disk and a few blank tapes. \$30 obo.

Contact: Matthew Steger, N3NTJ, n3ntj@surftee.com

05/00

For Sale: ICOM IC-02AT

2 meter, 5 watt HT complete with BC-35 drop in charger and MFJ-285 speaker microphone. Like new condition.

Icom IC-820H 2M/70 cm Multi-mode transceiver. 50W on 2m, 35W on 70cm. USB, LSB, FM, CW. Complete with mast mount 2M & 70 cm receive pre-amplifiers. Excellent for satellite or weak signal work. \$800.

MFJ-9406 6 Meter SSB transceiver. 10 watts output. \$150.

From the estate of Jerry Stohmeyer, KE3DB.

Contact Bob Fuller, N3LBI at 898-1115 or 146.61 repeater.

Don't forget to subscribe to the R-A-E List Server. Lots of good information and an easy way to keep in touch with folks.

Send an e-mail to rae@bfdin.com and type "subscribe" without the quotes in the subject line.

03/00

For Sale:

HP Omnibook Laptop Computer \$250.00
100Mhz Pentium, 16 meg RAM, 540 meg hard drive, 56K fax modem, 1.44 meg floppy drive, 10x CD-ROM, carrying case.

Contact Paul Semrau: 814-871-2296

Visit the Radio Association of Erie web page:

NEW URL!

<http://public.surftee.com/n3ntj/rae.html>

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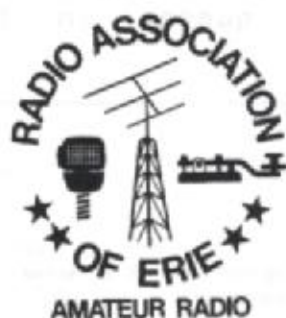
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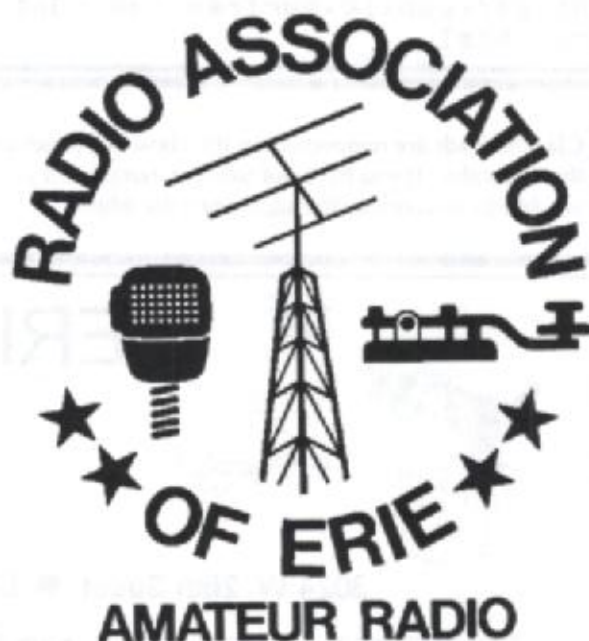
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LOCAL AREA NETS

6 Meter FM	52.525 FM	Wednesday	9:00 pm
6 Meter AM	50.520 AM	Wednesday	7:00 pm
6 Meter SSB	50.190 SSB	Sunday	7:00 pm
Lake Erie Emergency Net	29.000 SSB	Sunday	8:00 pm
Novice-Tech Net	28.400 SSB	Wednesday	8:30 pm
Radio Ama- teurs of Corry	28.330 SSB	Tuesday	8:00 pm
10-10 Int'l Net	28.380 USB 28.800 USB	Daily	18:00 UTC



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The Official Newsletter of the Radio Association of Erie
The RAE is an ARRL Special Service Club

July 1, 2000

Next RAE club meeting July 6, 2000

Issue No. 7

FCC's Hatfield Tells Hams To "Walk the Walk"

From the ARRL Letter

The FCC's Dale Hatfield, W0IFO, predicts a bright future for Amateur Radio. But the Office of Engineering and Technology chief says that amateurs "will be under a certain amount of pressure" to justify their free use of the radio spectrum. As a result, he said, it will be more important than ever that hams actually fulfill their service, good will and educational roles--not just talk about them.

Hatfield offered his observations as keynote speaker for AMRAD's 25th anniversary dinner June 17 in Virginia. Hatfield told the gathering, "the key issue for the amateur service is maintaining access to an adequate amount of spectrum." While emphasizing that he was not suggesting any immediate threat, Hatfield said hams will have to do a better job of justifying their current allocations.

Hatfield said hams should actually engage in experimentation to advance the state-of-the-art, provide communication and train operators for emergencies, encourage international cooperation and

good will, and offer an important technical educational outlet. "Or, to use a bit of slang, it seems to me that it will be even more important for all segments of the amateur community to 'walk the walk' not just 'talk the talk'," he said.



Hatfield encouraged his audience to explore advanced techniques that conserve spectrum, especially digital techniques. As the rest of the telecommunications world transitions to digital techniques, Hatfield said, "the amateur service will look antiquated if it is not making progress in that direction as well."

Hatfield also said software defined radios could facilitate "a new era of amateur experimentation" and, in many ways, represent "a final merger" of radio communications and computers.

The text of Hatfield's prepared remarks is available on the FCC Web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/Speeches/misc/dnh061700.html>

Q

RAE on the Web: <http://public.surfnet.nl/~n3ntj/rae.html>

VE Report

By Norma Vanderhoff, W3CG

Qualifying for an upgrade of license at Villa Maria in June were Richard Gensheimer, N3GCP of North East, to Amateur Extra, William Craig, N3ZUD of McKean to General, and Gaynil Lester, KB3EBH of Tidioute to General.

Bonnie Guarden of Cambridge Springs earned her first license, Technician.

The next test session at Villa Maria Lecture Hall will be at 8 am on Saturday, July 1, 2000.

The ARRL VEC office personnel deserve a big thank you for the terrific amount of applications that they handled so well during the past few months. While we are inclined to think of it as the rush following April 15, the heavy load actually commenced in February. The office handled this with a staff of seven people, later adding three temporary helpers, and later yet, eight volunteers joined the group.

Our ARRL dues dollars are well spent and the VEC department is a part of it.

The FCC also proved to be very efficient in handling the recent heavy load.

Norma, W3CG



Tony Zona, WB3KGT Takes On Editor Duties

Starting with the August 2000 QUARAE, Tony Zona, WB3KGT will be taking over as the editor of the QUARAE. Tony has graciously agreed to take over editor duties for six months or so.

So, here's the scoops you need to know:

Send email, news articles, and classified ads to qua_rae@yahoo.com. Tony will collect the mail and get it into the newsletter. If you have pictures to submit electronically, please submit them in JPG format, 200 DPI. If you cannot get them in electronic format, make arrangements with Tony via email to qua_rae@yahoo.com so that he can get them from you for scanning.

When submitting articles and ads, please make sure the typing is in upper and lower case. Refrain from ALL CAPS.

Get those articles and pictures into the editor. Contributions from club members makes for a much more interesting newsletter. Anything regarding amateur radio in general is needed. Or, do you have an Elmer who has been a big help to you? Is there a club member who has the most awesome shack you've ever seen? How about someone in the club who has some outstanding achievements to his name? Ever build a kit? These are just a few ideas that we would love to hear about. So get writing! Take some pictures! And share some amateur radio excitement with the rest of the club!



The QUA-RAE is edited by Mark Testa, N3SFP. Articles or classified ads can be submitted to the editor, preferably via e-mail or disk. E-mail n3sfp@erie.net. Articles can also be faxed to 240-218-4276. If you need to mail an article, send to 849 Newton Ave., Erie, PA 16511. Please have your article to the editor by the 15th to be guaranteed space in the current issue. Articles received after the 15th will be placed in the next issue. Any and all articles of interest to the ham community will be greatly appreciated!

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MEETING MINUTES

RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE
GENERAL MEETING
June 1, 2000

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: N3LBI, K3GJK, N3RKO, N3ZUD, N3BZL, N3FAW, KA3QDM and K3LD. Not present, KA3WYO.

The RAE General Meeting was called to order by President, N3LBI at 7:30 pm.

Moment of Silence for Hank Kaminski, KA3WAM

Secretary Report: A motion to accept the minutes from May General meeting. Motion: K3TJM, Second: WR4W.

Treasury Report: K3GJK gave report.

Board Meeting - N3LBI - EOC, field days - KB3EEV is chairing field days. Contact Elmer to help. Fundraising committee had 2,000 tickets for 50/50 made up. This will be in place of the hamfest, so help support the club.

QUARAE - Mark, N3SFP wants you to keep sending your articles by the 15th of the month. Mark may have someone that might be interested in taking over the QUARAE for about 6 months for him.

Membership: N3FAW -176 members for 2000.

Repeater: N3SRD - Steve told us a lot of organizations are being asked to move off of the TV towers for the Hi Definition TV that is going in, so we are part of a large group looking for towers to go to. Steve approached the people for the tower that 82 is on. They verbally told him that we do a very important service and they agreed, but they would like a copy of the existing lease that we have with them, so it is being checked into. Steve and George, W3ZQS will be getting together and checking a couple of potential sites for the voters and Tony, WB3KGT will make another topo study based on 82. Steve noted that when they do move 61 they want it down no more than 24 hours.

EOC: N3SRD - After many calls and meetings we finally got back the lease, which will be reviewed and then Monday, county council will meet for their decision. N3SRD mentioned that Luegi said that we can make any amendments to the lease if in the future it was ever needed. N3LBI put a motion on floor to go ahead and continue to execute lease, review it and barring any problems to go forward with it. All present approved unanimously.

VE: K3LD - June 3 and July 1 at 8:00 at the Villa Lecture Hall. Gannon will be June 17 and July 15.

Public Service: N3BZL - Thanked all who helped with the MS walk. Went very smooth. Edinboro Triathlon is Saturday, June 3. N3HPR for the MS Bike-a-thon is June 10. Tom will need volunteers. Contact N3HPR if interested.

Fundraising: Still selling the 10 meter radio for \$5.00 a ticket. There are 100 tickets so get them early. The fundraising committee decided to also sell 50/50 tickets for \$1.00 and the drawing will be September 7 in place of hamfest this year. If you want any tickets or to sell any, contact N3HPR, N3LKW, KE3XR, and N3LBI.

ARES: N3HPR - nothing right now for ARES, but Dennis, KA3WYO is working on getting new plastic ID cards for ARES.

Field days: Elmer, KB3EEV - anyone that would like to help contact Elmer. He works Saturdays, so he will appreciate any help. Also he received a letter from Ernie's, WB3DGD daughter, Kathy. Ernie Whitney is now living at The Villa on the Lake. If anyone would like to drop Ernie a card or anything, Elmer, KB3EEV has his address.

50/50 - \$ 22.50 George, W2ZQS. A ticket to Breezeshooters won by NM3L and N3RKO. Second 50/50 drawing which is at \$438.50 WON by Joseph Zinzella, KC3RC. Joe donated \$138.50 to the Club. Thank you Joe!

Motion to adjourn, NI3Q. Second, N3ZUD.
Adjourn 8:40

Submitted by K3LD.

Q



RAE 50-50 Tickets Now Available!!

Drawing September 7, 2000

Fellow amateur's,
This replaces the hamfest income. We need your SUPPORT. Please sell or buy at least 20 tickets.

For tickets, please contact:
Sandy, N3LKW 833-1640
Micki, KE3XR 866-9819

Thanks for YOUR support of the Radio Association of Erie

Radio Association of Erie officers for 2000

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HP internal CD-Rewriter 7200i Plus. Only 1 year old. Comes with loads of software (drivers, etc.). Great PC back-up device and is multi-session compatible! Will play regular CD-ROM and CD-R disks as well as CD-RWs. CD-RWs can be rewritten up to 1000 times. Can be used like a removable hard drive. \$140 obo.

HP Colorado Jumbo Tape Backup system. Drivers disk and a few blank tapes. \$30 obo.

Contact: Matthew Steger, N3NTJ, n3ntj@surfree.com

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2 meter, 5 watt HT complete with BC-35 drop in charger and MFJ-285 speaker microphone. Like new condition.

Icom IC-820H 2M/70 cm Multi-mode transceiver. 50W on 2m, 35W on 70cm. USB, LSB, FM, CW. Complete with mast mount 2M & 70 cm receive pre-amplifiers. Excellent for satellite or weak signal work. \$800.

MFJ-9406 6 Meter SSB transceiver. 10 watts output. \$150.

From the estate of Jerry Stohmeyer, KE3DB.

Contact Bob Fuller, N3LBI at 898-1115 or 146.61 repeater.

03/00

For Sale:

HP Omnibook Laptop Computer \$250.00
100Mhz Pentium, 16 meg RAM, 540 meg hard drive, 56K fax modem, 1.44 meg floppy drive, 10x CD-ROM, carrying case.

Contact Paul Semrau: 814-871-2296

Visit the Radio Association of Erie web page:

<http://public.surfree.com/n3ntj/rae.html>

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A Few of the Local Nets

6 Meter FM	52.525 FM	Wednesday	9:00 pm
6 Meter AM	50.520 AM	Wednesday	7:00 pm
6 Meter SSB	50.190 SSB	Sunday	7:00 pm
Lake Erie Emergency Net	29.000 SSB	Sunday	8:00 pm
Novice-Tech Net	28.400 SSB	Wednesday	8:30 pm
Radio Ama- teurs of Corry	28.330 SSB	Tuesday	8:00 pm
10-10 Int'l Net	28.380 USB 28.800 USB	Daily	18:00 UTC



QUA-RAE

Newsletter of the Radio Association of Erie, an ARRL Special Service Club

Have you news of the RAE?

September, 2000

WX3E winds up his career as an over-the-road truck driver

By Tony Zona, WB3KGT

On the road again. David Wellman was on the road again.

It has the ring of a song, but it was all business, with a good measure of enjoyment, for Wellman, WX3E, of Union City.

On a recent trip to Cleveland, his second of the day there, Wellman, 51, was relaxed and comfortable with his Volvo tractor-trailer he drove for Troyer Farms of Waterford. This particular Thursday night, Wellman had 10,000 pounds of potato chips and was headed for a warehouse.

His trucking days, though, pretty much came to an end Aug. 30. He was promoted to Troyer's warehouse manager. He said he would not be surprised to be pressed into duty behind the wheel in emergencies. He was leaving the trucking job as you would leave an old friend, reluctantly. Wellman's last run was to Indianapolis.



Dusk creeps over I-90.

He started trucking produce at 16 years old. He needed the job, he said.

"It was easy money," Wellman said

in soft-spoken tones and with his characteristic ready smile and rounded features. Later he shot pictures and worked for the former Dahlkemper catalog showroom in Erie for 18 years, where he managed the camera department. Without warning one day he learned Dahlkemper's was going out of business. A year later he was on the road driving.

Wellman started in Citizen's Band radio at 16, until Marlin "Hoppy" Hopkins, a technician at Mace Electronics in Erie

In the QUA-RAE spotlight

prodded him into amateur radio.

"He told me to go to class," Wellman explained, "and Norma, W3CG, gave me the test."

In his amateur radio life, he started out in 1976 as WB3BNH, then KD3OE. He received his Extra Class license in 1992. He is the vice president of the Union City Wireless Association, a club he and three others founded in 1995. He is trustee of the club's repeater. Wellman is a net control station for Erie County Skywarn, and Erie County Radio Officer for RACES. His wife, Judy, is N3OZH.

His 130,000 miles a year on the road pretty much limited his operating to two meters, except for his 80-meter work for RACES.

He made contacts all over the region on his two-meter rig. He spoke with another trucker while he was in Cleveland, and had a thorough knowledge of his trucking buddy's schedule.

The longest Wellman was gone from home in his truck was 30 hours, or two nights

His 425-horsepower diesel tractor, just a couple days shy of a year old, had almost 131,000 miles. The rig holds almost 200 gallons of diesel, and on this trip he was getting 8.1 miles per gallon. Wellman described his rig's computer matter-of-factly, but not quite the way you would expect a trucker. He was more enamored with the amount of information it produced that you would expect of a trucker.

It's that computer that limits his rig to 69 miles per hour.

"I'd like it to be able to go 72," Wellman



Wellman at the wheel near I-90.

said with his ready smile. The extra three miles per hour would help in hilly country, he explained.

On the road professionally, Wellman was known as a regional driver. He moved chips, corn meal and popcorn kernels in his 75-foot rig all over this section of the country.

On the road as an amateur driver, he is known as a biker. He and Judy pack up their Honda Gold Wing and head off on scenic trips.

The couple have a son Steve, 28, who is in sales for Troyer in Corry, and a son Brad, 24, who teaches in Union City.

What he will miss least on the road is the Ohio Highway Patrol enforcement. His comments indicated that he thought the police were biased against truckers. Wellman predicted that we would see a trucker pulled over before our trip was done. He was right.

Support sought for fund raiser

By Bob Fuller, N3LBI, RAE president

Here it is eight months gone in the new millennium. There's a lot going on with the RAE this year. The move of the .61 and .82 repeaters, start of the installation of the voter system, leasing of the old EOC building on Wagner Road, the upcoming raising of the tower at the old EOC, great participation in public service events, etc. **GOOD JOB EVERYONE!**



A couple of items as a reminder to the members. We're in the midst of fund raising to replace the money raised when the club held a hamfest. **PLEASE PARTICIPATE!**

We are currently holding a 50-50 at \$1 each, drawing at the September membership meeting. The "RIG RAFFLE" for the Radio Shack 10-meter mobile and mobile antenna, to continue until all 100 tickets are sold. Slightly over half sold. Please buy, buy more, or sell more tickets for both of these fund raisers.

Vacation for your president this year was a trip to the same place (since 1966) to do some fishing and this year some HF radio operating. I must say it was really fun this year to be able to talk back to some of the "regulars" in the area on the Fort Pierce Connection on 20 meters, in the mornings and the Connecticut Connection on 40 meters in the evenings. I've listened for the past several years to the "Guys Back Home," but not been able to talk with them. Not true this year! A big thanks to W3PIX, K3SBU, KB3MI, W3ZBF, WB3DOM, KB3CAB, and others for keeping me informed of what was new in Erie, Pa. Thanks to Ron for passing traffic to KB3CAT, and to Dan K3UFG for his comments from Connecticut. Conditions were not always the best, but we made it back over 50 percent of the time using an ICOM 706 MKII G, AH-4 tuner, and 40 feet of wire. P.S. Butch, the fishing was only fair, but we didn't starve!

Til next month, (Adventures from 7 land?)

Feds jail jammer

A Jupiter, FL, man who thumbed his nose at the FCC thumbed his way into jail.

The man, William Flippo, was jailed July 20, then released on \$100,000 bond. He had been fined \$20,000 last summer.

He was jailed on four counts each of transmitting without a license and interfering with the operations of licensed stations. Each count carries a maximum penalty of a year in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Last summer's fine was for unlicensed operation, willful and malicious interference to amateur radio communications, and failure to let the FCC inspect his radio equipment. The U.S. Attorney entered the case in January after Flippo failed to pay the fine and interference continued.

Federal marshals, FCC and FBI agents, and local authorities arrested Flippo.

Hams in Florida said Flippo interfered with local HF and repeater nets, even after the FCC action.

About the RAE

Who we are

The *QUA-RAE* is published by the Radio Association of Erie, PA, a non-profit club serving Erie County since 1945. The club provides communication for public events, and facilities for emergency communications during a civil disaster and severe weather.

Who's in charge

President	Bob Fuller, N3LBI
Vice Pres.	Donald Kelly, KA3QDM
Secretary	Dianne Miller, K3LD
Treasurer	Jerry Koos, K3GJK
Directors	Bill Craig, N3ZUD
	Chairman
	Jack Haven, N3RKO
	Dennis Sharer, KA3WYO
	Clif Craft, N3BZL
	Bob Schwimmer, N3FAW

Where we meet

The club meets on the first Thursday of the month, except December, at the Red Cross, 4961 Pittsburgh Ave., Erie.

How to join

For membership information, contact Bob Schwimmer at 866-3027 or email bohn3faw@adelphia.net.

On the web

Radio Association of Erie web page
<http://public.surftee.com/n3ntj/rae.html>

How to submit articles, ads and pictures

Submit articles and classified advertisements by email to qua_rae@yahoo.com, or by disk, by the 15th for the following month. Please add the subject line "RAE Article" or "RAE Classified" to your email. Please make sure the typing is in upper and lower case. Refrain from ALL CAPS.

If you have pictures to submit electronically, please submit them in JPEG format, 200 dots per inch. If you cannot get them in electronic format, make arrangements for scanning with us via email to qua_rae@yahoo.com.

The *QUA-RAE* is edited by
Tony Zona, WB3KGT.

Meeting minutes

Radio Association of Erie

General meeting

August 3, 2000

Board members present: N3LBI, K3GJK, N3RKO, N3FAW, KA3QDM, N3ZUD and K3LD. **Not present:** N3BZL & KA3WYO

The RAE General Meeting was called to order by **President- N3LBI** at 7:36

New Calls: KB3EVS, Donald Clark

Visitor: Paul Chapman, W3CPT

Secretary Report: A motion to accept the minutes from July General meeting Motion: N3HPR, second: KE3XR

Treasury Report: K3GJK gave report.

Board Meeting: N3ZUD- Expenses, CD due, Peninsula voter

QuaRae: WB3KGT - request articles, ads, also digital pictures by the 15th of the month. Tony also thanked N3FAW for all of his work to get the QuaRae out on time.

Repeater: N3SRD - Steve spent his vacation with George (W3ZQS) working on moving the North East voter to a new location at Electric Materials, they also moved 82 to the EOC site and installed a dual band antenna and connected with 440. The 61 repeater is linked with the 82 site to try to get more coverage downtown. The coverage isn't working all that great but they do link. They installed a link radio to the 61 site using an existing 2-meter antenna at the top of the tower. Also reconnected the band pass filter. Hoping to get a voter down at the Peninsula but they are installing a 150-foot tower at Presque Isle for the trunking system for the State Police. They don't want to do anything till it is tested. Steve will check in about a week or so on getting up the voter over there.

EOC: N3SRD - Thanked all who helped W3ZQS, AD4UL, N3FAW, KE3XR, N3HPR, KB3EEV, WB3KGT, N3EOY,

N3XUK and N3XGB who helped with cleanup at the EOC.

Pending: N3SRD - We are waiting to hear from Dennia Spagnola (WQLN) on when they are getting our antenna down.

N3HPR: thanked N3SRD and W3ZQS on all of their hard work and time spent.

VE: K3LD - August 5 and September 2 at 8:00 at the Villa Lecture Hall. -Gannon will be August 19 and September 16.

WR4W: Tower at EOC: Jim has a information on foundation system that will have no holes dug, no concrete. They will use anchors, and gullage that can hold up to 250,000 lbs and tork of 4,000 lbs. Its a good system and less expensive with a one day installation. A soil investigation will need to be done. Jim will go by code so they need to clarify about grounding and specific patterns. We will also need a fence at the base of the tower and guys, so it will not be climbable. Jim will have a proposal on what will be done and the cost. N13Q motion to authorize the board to move forward with the job and review the proposal and if all is in order any approvals. N3SRD second. All in favor Unanimous

Public Service: March of Dimes Canoe and Kyak race on Aug. 26 anyone interested contact N3LBI

Skywarn: N3EOY nothing. N3SRD questioned why a net wasn't brought up

the night of Aug. 5, when it really rained. Dave said any Skywarn Control Ops can contact Cleveland and see if a net can be brought up. But Cleveland has to be notified and they will make the decision on whether one is done.

Old business: N3LKW and KE3XR. 50/50 ticket raffle, for \$1.00 will be held on September general meeting so make sure your tickets are in. Sandy and Micki will be at the Peach Street Walmart on Saturday, Aug. 5. KE3XR made a motion to send to any club members who do not have any tickets to them in the mail. (Note: they will need to be in by the September 7th meeting.) Second N3HPR

N3LBI: has the tickets for the 10 meter.

New: N3HPR - Nominations for elections. Nominations need to be signed by two active club members and in by Sept. 15 to the Election Committee N3HPR, K3GJK, KA3QDM and K3LD.

Additional Comments: N3LBI - Since becoming a General Class License he finally made some contacts when he was in Canada.

50/50 - \$ 17.00 N3RKO

Motion to adjourn: KB3ALU second N3ZUD
Adjourn 8:40

Submitted by K3LD



Tickets sold at table at Wegmans grocery

The RAE's fund-raising crew spent a sunny Saturday at a table outside of Wegman's recently. From left Micki LaJohn, KE3XR; Tom McClain, N3HPR; and Sandy McClain, N3LKW.

The drawing, this year's major fund-raiser, will be at the September meeting. Take your tickets with you to get them in the barrel.

Everybody should have SSTV receive-only

By Ron Prindle, N3BXL

Recently I re-discovered a shareware copy of EZ Slow Scan TV I thought you should know something about.

In light of the developments with the International Space Station (ISS), and the Space Station MIR, we all should have at least a receive-only Slow Scan TV set up in our radio shacks. It's easy and it's a bit better than I had expected the first time that I reviewed this software.



Ron Prindle

My story begins in the basement of Woody Woodbridge, WA3ANA, several years ago. Paul Semrau, N3UMM, and I were trying to get Fast Scan, studio quality amateur television (ATV) on the air. After visits with Ed Gubish, W3POS, and Woody, we were positioned really well to pull it off. I was sidetracked by Woody one day, on SSTV, and I'm so glad he showed me this I had to write you about it today. Besides full time Fast Scan ATV, SSTV is just as fun, if not more practical than you would expect.

Woody showed me his operational SSTV set up, and a few pictures he received over HF from other hams across the country. At the time, he told me, and almost sold me, on EZ SSTV, until I was pulled back by Fast Scan ATV. Now, years later, I realized just what Woody showed me. EZ SSTV really is easy, because with the use of a simple 741 op amp, you can receive high-quality pictures on HF in two popular modes, Robot 36 and Scottie S1.

What's the big deal? I was reading an article in Monitoring Times about receiving SSTV from the MIR Space Station and the Robot 36 format they use. I thought about SSTV for a minute, and listened to HF. Since I didn't know when MIR would pop up above the horizon, I tuned to 14.230 MHz USB. I heard hams exchanging "BMP" computer images, NASCAR from one guy and a back yard shot from another. Then I heard one guy say, "... here it comes in Scottie S1 format." I remembered Woody's software, dug

around in my ham floppy disks, found my shareware floppy, and loaded it on my 486 laptop.

The story can be very detailed right now, but I'll tell you the short version. I read the documentation, thought about the 741 op amp interface, and remembered that I had a BayPac radio modem. The modem demodulates SSTV just fine with other software so why not try it on EZ SSTV?

It works great with limitations, that is. I can't use anything but Robot 36 or Scottie S1. I can't save any pictures, but one evening I discovered something I never realized before about this software. I was playing with my Kenwood VC-H1, on an HT, on 145.530 MHz FM, and left EZ SSTV on, and noticed something NOT found in the documentation. I left EZ SSTV in the receive mode and forgot about it. I sent several frames from one VC-H1 to the other on my bench at 0.1 watts (while my ICOM HT was hooked up to my BayPac module) and I looked at the PC screen. The PC had the last eight frames captured on the screen. I had just sent, from one VC-H1 to the other, shots I forgot I sent, which were tracked without intervention. The FM HT operations had nice clean squelch circuits which cut off the audio from the BayPac, clean enough that EZ SSTV just waited for another frame and locked into and automatically advanced the frame capture for me, and I had a record of what I had sent in my experiments with FM.

That's the mode that I'm told MIR is using to transmit SSTV every three minutes. I've read email messages that

Woody wasn't wrong. EZ Slow Scan is an impressive shareware program worth a second look.

Hams are receiving several frames from MIR on each pass, and I now know just how those guys are doing it. Woody was so far ahead of his time, and I never realized then just how far. EZ SSTV is the key, and not in a real powerful PC at that, you can be watching what's going on in MIR, as soon as you can get a 741 circuit built.

What about that circuit? Well, it's laid out in the documentation that comes with the software. I'd make one change to the circuit. I'd add a manual switch to the audio line, for your single side-band operations, to act like that nice clean break we get with FM. That way, you don't have to reset the software each time, to get a new frame as it comes through on HF.

Where do you get EZ SSTV? I posted the shareware evaluation package on the GTE Computer Club's RBBS-PC System at 814 455-7036. You can download the EZSSTV.ZIP file (800K+) and try it out. To get all the other modes, transmit and

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What is electricity?

By Dave Barry
Miami Herald

Today's scientific question is: What in the world is electricity and where does it go after it leaves the toaster?

Here is a simple experiment that will teach you an important electrical lesson: On a cool dry day, scuff your feet along a carpet, then reach your hand into a friend's mouth and touch one of his dental fillings. Did you notice how your friend twitched violently and cried out in pain? This teaches one that electricity can be a very powerful force, but we must never use it to hurt others unless we need to learn an important lesson about electricity.



It also illustrates how an electrical circuit works. When you scuffed your feet, you picked up batches of "electrons," which are very small objects that carpet manufacturers weave into carpet so that they will attract dirt. The electrons travel through your bloodstream and collect in your finger, where they form a spark that leaps to your friend's filling, then travel down to his feet and back into the carpet, thus completing the circuit.

AMAZING ELECTRONIC FACT: If you scuffed your feet long enough without touching anything, you would build up so many electrons that your finger would explode! But this is nothing to worry about unless you have carpeting.

Although we modern persons tend to take our electric lights, radios, mixers, etc. for granted, hundreds of years ago people did not have any of these things, which is just as well because there was no place to plug them in. Then along came the first Electrical Pioneer, Benjamin Franklin, who flew a kite in a lightning storm and received a serious electrical shock. This proved that lightning was powered by the same force as carpets, but it also damaged Franklin's brain so severely that he started speaking only in incomprehensible maxims, such as, "A penny saved is a penny earned." Eventually he had to be given a job running the post office.

After Franklin came a herd of Electrical Pioneers whose names have become part of our electrical terminology: Myron Volt,

Mary Louise Amp, James Watt, Bob Transformer, etc. These pioneers conducted many important electrical experiments. Among them, Galvani discovered (this is the truth) that when he attached two different kinds of metal to the leg of a frog, an electrical current developed and the frog's leg kicked, even though it was no longer attached to the frog, which was dead anyway. Galvani's discovery led to enormous advances in the field of amphibian medicine. Today, skilled veterinary surgeons can take a frog that has been seriously injured or killed, implant pieces of metal in its muscles, and watch it hop back into the pond — almost.

But the greatest Electrical Pioneer of them all was Thomas Edison, who was a brilliant inventor despite the fact that he had little formal education and lived in New Jersey. Edison's first major invention in 1877 was the phonograph, which could soon be found in thousands of American homes, where it basically sat until 1923, when the record was invented.

But Edison's greatest achievement came in 1879 when he invented the electric company. Edison's design was a brilliant adaptation of the simple electrical circuit: the electric company sends electricity through a wire to a customer, then immediately gets the electricity back through another wire, then (this is the brilliant part) sends it right back to the customer again.

This means that an electric company can sell a customer the same batch of electricity thousands of times a day and never get caught, since very few customers take the time to examine their electricity closely. In fact, the last year any new electricity was generated was 1937. Today, thanks to men like Edison and Franklin, and frogs like Galvani's, we receive almost unlimited benefits from electricity. For example, in the past decade scientists have developed the laser, an electronic appliance so powerful that it can vaporize a bulldozer 2,000 yards away, yet so precise that doctors can use it to perform delicate operations to the human eyeball, provided they remember to change the power setting from "Bulldozer" to "Eyeball."

Dave Barry's column appears in Erie's Sunday Times-News.

Radio Association of Erie, P.O. Box 844, Erie, PA 16512

ARRL establishes radio club prizes

The American Radio Relay League has \$1,000 for clubs that score the highest in 2000 in four categories. The are clubs with more than 100 members, between 25 and 100 members, with 25 or fewer members, and school clubs.



Each club will be rated for each bona fide activity. Clubs must submit informational material and photos about their club's activities.

Points will be awarded for each club member who belongs to the ARRL, for being a Special Service Club, recruiting, having open meetings, instructing, ARES, NTS and a host of other activities.

Contact Margie Bourgoin, KB1DCO, kb1dco@arrl.org, at the ARRL.

Erie VE report

By Norma Vanderhoff, W3CG

The Aug. 5 test at Villa Maria resulted in Michael Kline of Brookville earning a Technician license.

Phillip Winters, KD7JTT, of Eugene, OR, upgraded to Extra Class.

The VEs were Robb Jacobs, N3OCL; Debbie Nelson, N2MQ; Dianne Miller, K3LD; and me.

SSTV

From Page 1

file save features, register it.

I think we all should have SSTV receive-only stations. Why? Well listen to 3.845 MHz, 3.857 MHz, 7.171 MHz, 14.230 MHz, 14.233 MHz, 21.340 MHz, 28.680 MHz, and even 144.500 MHz. If you're into FM, too, listen to MIR and soon the ISS hams for in-flight shots.

I'm not sure how this experiment is going to work out. Paul and I are still working on the Fast Scan ATV setup for the NASA retransmissions on 145.530 MHz. How would you feel if we broke the audio every three minutes for 30 seconds of Robot 36 SSTV? Would the fax-like signal be worth putting up with? I think so if more of us were ready to receive SSTV.

Let me know what you think by sending me an email message to n3bx1@juno.com.

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Remote 2 finds a home Saint Vincent

Several months ago, as part of a three-phase placement plan, the RAE began working with Presque State Park officials for a spot on their 80-foot tower for the second of three, remote, 2-meter receivers.

The remote a necessity after the untimely relocation of the main 146.610 repeater from the WQLN TV tower on Route 19 to the old .82 site on the Erie County EMS tower on Sharp Road.

"We had a pretty good plan when .61 was at WQLN," said Steve La John, RAE repeater committee chairman. "The hope was to use the remotes to help in those isolated areas from which it was difficult or impossible to hit the repeater."

"That's all changed now."

"Five-watt hand held coverage throughout the entire county was a realistic goal when a very large portion of the county was covered by the main repeater site."

With the assistance of Nick Sleptzoff, the Presque Isle spot was all but a sure thing, or so LaJohn thought.

"Something's are just not meant to be, I guess," LaJohn said. "I wish we could get back half of the countless

hours we spent testing and negotiating the Presque Isle site, but that's water under the dam."

The reason for the denial from the Officer-In-Charge in Harrisburg, LaJohn said, was the Pennsylvania State Police trunking system tower. Presque Isle is the home of the first trunking installation in the state.

"We just can't take any chances with this thing, being the first one in our area," the officer said.

"I thought Saint Vincent would be a great place for the city remote," LaJohn said. "The EmergencyCare VHF base located on St.V's has almost county wide coverage, but many other questions were still to be answered. Would Saint Vincent agree to give us some space? Would the 440 signal make it back to Sharp Road without a 100-watt amplifier? Would there be interference problems such as inter-mod?"

On Aug. 7, 10 days before the Presque Isle deal fell through, Saint Vincent's Paul Matters, director of engineering, agreed to discuss the project.

"After only a week," LaJohn said, "all our questions were answered. Saint Vincent would host remote Number 2. The 440 signal would make it back to Sharp Road, and a mere two watts would get it there. And, no, there would not be any real interference problems."

"Work on the installation began within hours of a signed agreement," he said. "A mounting bracket was designed and built from two pipes for the 2-meter antenna, feedline was cut and connector's were soldered. All were loaded on an Emergency Room stretcher and we were off to the roof. Seven and a half hours later, both



George Bablak, W3ZQS, wheels the RAE remote into on a hospital gurney.

antennas were mounted, the coax was routed and the remote was up and running."

"It's not without it's bugs," Steve said, "but it all takes time."

"The guy that really deserves the credit is George Bablak, W3ZQS, without his knowledge, expertise and ability there would be no voter system."



Steve LaJohn, N3SRD, on the hospital's rooftop tower.



Crew tackles weeds at EOC

Ryan Teribery, N3XGR, took his monster mower to the EOC recently. The weeds disappeared shortly.

Classified ads

Internal Toshiba CD drive for sale. XM-5302B, 4X, \$10. Contact Bob Fuller, N3LBI, 898-1115 or 146.61 repeater. (9/00)

Icom IC-P2AT 2m HT. Good condition. CTCSS encode/decode, one battery, all paperwork (manual, schematics, pocket "operating guide" card). New replacement battery. \$150. Michael Mancuso, KB3AOL. (7/00)

Star NX-10 dot matrix printer. \$15. Radio Shack DMP-105 dot matrix printer, \$10. 14.4 modem, \$3. 899-2107 or k3sbu-1@juno.com (7/00)

HP internal CD-Rewriter 7200i Plus. Only a year old. Comes with loads of software (drivers, etc.). Great PC back-up device and is multi-session compatible. Will play regular CD-ROM and CD-R disks as well as CD-RWs. CD-RWs can be rewritten to up to 1,000 times. Can be used like a removable hard drive. \$160 obo. Matthew Steger, N3NTJ n3ntj@surf.free.com. (5/00)

HP Colorado Jumbo Tape Backup system. Drivers disk and a few blank tapes. \$30 obo. Matthew Steger, N3NTJ n3ntj@surf.free.com (5/00)

Kenwood TS-520SE HF rig. Good condition. New drive and final tubes.

\$300.00. Frank Graziano, KD3D 833-3342. (7/00)

Internal 14.4 Fax/Modem w/software. \$ 25.00. 474-5079 Ask for Aaron.. Page me 878-9608. Or e-mail Aaron Robson N3WAH. (7/00)

Paraclops 4 meter C-Band satellite dish with LNB and mover. Free if you take it down and remove it. Dave Henderson, N3EOY (814) 734-4623. (7/00)

STANDARD 558A 2m/440 HT dual band w/2CNB-151 7.2v 700ma batteries. 1CBT-151 battery case. CHP-111 headset mic. w/PTT switch. CMU-161 200 channel memory chip. All for \$350; will consider 33.6 modem and/or CPU. Mike Waylonis, N3KFT. 456-8318, or jmn3kgt@worldnet.att.net (7/00)

Uniden President HR2510 (modifiable) 10 meter all mode rig with service manual and Shakespeare Big Stik III 1/2 wave vertical antenna, \$275 for all. Also 30 ft. of Dover tower, best offer. Don Pytlarz, KA3SRH, 454-5576 home or 835-5662 work or email pytlarz@trojan.mtsd.k12.pa.us (7/00)

Yaesu FT 207R HT A great low price HT! Good condition, Tone encoder, Nicad battery pack, Wall charger, Speaker mic, and Keypad for only

\$100.00. 833-4111 ask for Kory or e-mail smitty@velocity.net (7/00)

Radio/Tech modification and alignment control manuals No's 5A & 5B, covers many rigs, \$20 for both. Encyclopedia of Electronics-2nd edition; 960 pages. Paid \$70 for it, will sell for \$25. Other books too numerous to mention, E-Mail for particular interest. Mike Waylonis N3KFT (7/00)

Kenwood TS-130S with PS for sale. Radio works great and cosmetically it is a 7 1/2 on a scale of 10. It would make a nice first rig for an aspiring ham wanting to venture into HF or someone that needs a back-up rig. Price: \$475.00 includes rig, 20 amp P/S, and Shure Mic. Phone: 814-474-1211 or E-Mail: crobson@erie.net. KB3A. (7/00)

Cherokee 6 Meter FM HT Model AH-50 \$125.00, Alinco VHF DJ-C1 2 meter handheld XCVR \$65.00, Radio Shack HTX-404 UHF HT \$135.00. Eric, KA3WUN 833-0830. (7/00)

Classified ads are removed after a minimum of three months. If you have not sold the item and want to continue the ad, send email with details to qua_rae@yahoo.com



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Radio Association of Erie

Nomination form for candidates for 2001 office

President: _____
Secretary: _____
Board of directors: _____

Vice president: _____
Treasurer: _____

Requires signatures of two active regular or life members

Signature: _____
Signature: _____

Nominating committee

Tom McClain, N3HPR Gerry Koos, K3GJK
Don Kelly, KA3QDM Diane Miller, K3LD

Present this to the nominating committee by Sept. 15 meeting

FCC sets aside Latrobe 4-member Amateur club license of Sam Jacobs

The FCC set aside club station license KB3FGX of General licensee Sam W. Jacobs, K3SAM, of Latrobe. The license had been granted July 14 for the J and D Club.

Riley Hollingsworth, FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement, said Jacobs' application would be pending. The FCC asked for more information to determine what action it should take on Jacobs' club station application.

Citing requirements for club stations in Section 97.5 of the FCC's rules, Hollingsworth requested that Jacobs supply names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the four club members and

a copy of the document of organization, a description of the club's management, and an explanation of the club's purpose.

Hollingsworth noted that the FCC had sent Jacobs a Warning Notice on Jan. 17 "concerning interference and 'broadcasting' on amateur frequencies." He said the FCC also had received numerous complaints that Jacobs had deliberately interfered with nets and other communications.

The FCC gave Jacobs 30 days to provide the requested information.